

LAAC: Weekly Leadership Update  
May 11, 2018

North Star Updates

| Authorization & Oversight                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| <i>North Star: Oversight of charter schools is efficient for both LAUSD and educators, centered on student learning, and promotes a collaborative relationship between charter schools and their authorizer.</i> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Current Strategy                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p><b>Updated Authorization &amp; Oversight Policy:</b> We had our clearest window to date to make this happen with Ref's resolution, which is now being postponed board meeting by board meeting. We decided we did not want to encourage the continuation of Applicable Policies Working Group, which has essentially died out. At this time we are focused on big picture changes instead of tweaking the existing policy: focusing on staffing at the CSD and updating renewal criteria so Authorizing and Oversight can reflect those improvements. However, <b>Ref's office</b> has asked us to think about what from his resolution isn't in policy and can get done without a resolution.</p>                                                                                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p><b>Oversight Feedback &amp; Survey:</b> We believe that the strongest argument to the new superintendent to encourage him to make changes on charter issues will be to demonstrate the gap between the existing policy and practice: the policies are good, but staff is ineffective and isn't following them. <b>Glenn Gritzner</b> shared this week that he thinks that is a strong argument for <b>Austin</b>. We are continuing to document the gap via the circulation of a new oversight and authorization survey and compiling school leader anecdotes, particularly now that most schools have completed oversight visits for the year. Pathways forward for changes include: board directive without a resolution; Board requests Board Informative regarding authorizing policy vs. practice;</p> |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p><b>Updated Charter Renewal Criteria:</b> We are still pushing hard to get renewal criteria updated locally at LAUSD. We are working to make efficient use of <b>May 21 Renewal "Listen &amp; Learn" Session with CSD</b> that we lobbied for to Frances and Jose as an alternative path to work on renewal outside a working group, as well as other advocacy opportunities including preparing for initial conversations between <b>Austin</b> and <b>Emilio/Jed/etc</b> once meetings are scheduled with the new <b>Superintendent</b>. We are also continuing to monitor conversations around the Performance Framework, and need to schedule a meeting with <b>Nick's</b> office to clarify his thinking vs. <b>Kelly's</b>, which we will do next week.</p>                                            |
| What Happened Last Week                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p><b>Updated Authorization &amp; Oversight Policy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Aixle</b> told us that <b>Ref</b> is going to continue to postpone his resolution rather than pull it, because he wants it to be available to us should we need it. She asked us to tell her what in the reso is policy vs. just something the CSD decides so we can think of an alternate path forward for those things.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p><b>Oversight Feedback &amp; Survey:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We developed a draft of a new survey to share with the policy working group for feedback and edits. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Emphasize questions aligned to LAAC North Stars to reflect our focus and deemphasize questions unrelated to NS to shorten overall survey.</li> <li>o Added questions to measure perception of oversight changes for this year aligned to our broader principles of transparency,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

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|                                                           | <p>efficiency, consistency, collaboration, and student-centered practices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Developed a draft template for final oversight report emphasizing major challenges and possible solutions to oversight for LAAC to use in conversations with District leadership, should those conversations happen. It will be revised to include new survey results.</li> </ul> <p><b>Updated Charter Renewal Criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- First renewal cohort call for June/July submissions.</li> <li>- Cassy spoke with <b>José</b> about how we get to update renewal criteria after the “Listen and Learn” session. He clearly is hesitant to make major updates on renewal, but also wants to demonstrate that he is doing work for the new <b>Superintendent</b>, and wants to hear from us directly what changes we think make sense.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p>For Discussion:<br/>What's Happening<br/>Next Week</p> | <p><b>Updated Authorization &amp; Oversight Policy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Send <b>Ref's office</b> a list of what in his resolution can be done without a resolution, and strategize with them on how to make those things happen.</li> <li>- Push for meetings with <b>Austin</b> based on who he reaches out to, per Glenn's feedback, whether that be <b>Emilio or Jed</b> or both and make sure they are prepped to talk about staffing issue and policy vs. practice.</li> <li>- Start planting seeds for a board informative on CSD authorizing policy as written vs. practice in conversations with <b>board members</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Oversight Feedback &amp; Survey:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Optional review of survey by LAAC leadership prior to circulation to Policy Working Group.</li> <li>- Policy Working Group will receive draft of new survey for email feedback and option phone call to discuss feedback during week of May 21, putting final survey results to be collected by June 9.</li> <li>- Format survey for distribution to schools so we are prepared to move more quickly, if desired.</li> </ul> <p><b>Updated Charter Renewal Criteria</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We will be seeking input from the charter community to prepare for the Renewal “Listen &amp; Learn” Session on May 21. We will use this input – and feedback we’ve collected over the past year – to facilitate detailed preparation for those organizations who will attend, including advocating explicitly for CCSA's renewal criteria.</li> <li>- We are identifying a set of “next best alternatives” if LAUSD will not adopt the full CCSA Accountability Framework as renewal criteria, which we need leaders to be ready to share with the CSD at the Listen and Learn session, and we will be sharing with Jose directly so he knows what we are hoping for.</li> <li>- We will be working with the SPAR team to create a template so that all renewals can include CCSA Performance Framework data in their petitions, assuming we don't get renewal criteria where we want it through Listen and Learn session.</li> <li>- We will be building a strategy to socialize all members to the idea of</li> </ul> |

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|                                            | <p>including CCSA renewal criteria in their petitions, which will get pushback from low-performing schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We will be connecting with <b>Nick</b> about the Performance Framework, especially given feedback from Annabelle on the last session at GPSN.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| What's Happening with Working Group        | <p>Proposal: We could email the working group to ask for feedback on the Authorizing and Oversight survey, and also ask them to be prepared to attend the Listen and Learn session and push for the right renewal criteria. The renewal conversation could happen via phone.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Preliminary Thoughts for Next LAAC Meeting | <p>Depending on date: LAAC could review initial survey results and provide feedback on whether those results suggest that we (de)prioritize changes to particular elements of oversight, but this doesn't need to happen at the LAAC meeting.</p> <p>We may want the LAAC to take a confirmation vote on the collective strategy of including CCSA renewal criteria in petitions, assuming we don't fully get the updates we want in the Listen and Learn session. We also may want to vote on the strategy of pushing the board for a board informative on whether the CSD is following current Authorizing and Oversight Policy.</p> |

**Facilities – Bond**

*North Star: State and local charter school bond dollars are allocated in a manner that is transparent and consistent with the long-term facilities needs of charter schools.*

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| Current Strategy        | <p>Advocate for equitable bond inclusion by first developing a bond proposal with charter leader and Facilities Policy Working Group input. From there, we are working to socialize the charter bond proposal and cultivating direct advocacy and lobbying opportunities with District leaders in preparation for a potential bond. Additionally, CCSA staff and our Bond appointee Mike Keeley have been working hard to aggregate as much intel regarding a potential bond, its timing, and the process for negotiations as possible. Although we cannot yet confirm that the District will pursue a November bond, District staff is operating under the assumption that it will in case the board makes a decision to move forward at the last minute. The deadline to submit for the November ballot is August 10, 2018, and the board would have to vote on the entire proposal at its June or July meeting. We are hearing from board members and others that a November 2018 bond may very well not happen, as they have been waiting on a Superintendent to “champion” the bond, and it would be hard to pull off on such short notice. However, the last thing we want is to be caught off guard and outside of negotiations should they move forward.</p> <p>With Austin taking office as Superintendent on May 14, we know that his business and finance background and the local political climate is likely to shape the District's position on a bond and/or a parcel tax. However, our strategy is to remain prepared and to continue to advocate for equitable charter inclusion should a bond measure move forward.</p> |
| What Happened Last Week | <p><b>Week of April 30:</b></p> <p><b>May 2:</b> CCSA Regional Advocacy and Facilities teams met with Board Member</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

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|                                     | <p><b>Kelly Gonez's</b> staff to discuss the charter bond proposal. Becky and Megan received the bond proposal information well, and asked a lot of questions about whether we could improve the current bond program under Measure Q regardless of what happens with a new bond. They certainly raised questions about explicit equitable inclusion of charters in the language, recognizing that it would be politically challenging and District staff would not want their hands tied. District staff are operating as though a bond would move forward, but recognize it very well may not.</p> <p><b>May 3:</b> CCSA Regional Advocacy and Facilities teams met with Board Member <b>Ref Rodriguez's</b> staff to discuss the charter bond proposal. Aixe raised that she imagined explicit charter inclusion and equitable/proportional allocation language would likely trigger opposition from charter-opposing board members and UTLA, and that general counsel and staff wouldn't want their hands tied to something so specific. Additionally, Aixe flagged that there would likely be pushback on whether it is appropriate for charter schools to receive a share of facilities bond funds proportional to the number of in-District charter students served by charter schools given that many charter schools are located on private, non-District sites. There is clearly a lot of work to do on their thinking. Similar to the meeting with Kelly's office, Aixe could not confirm that the District would proceed with a bond in November 2018, but seemed to imply that District staff are preparing just in case, but recognized that the selection of the new Superintendent would change things. At their request, meetings previously scheduled with Board President <b>Monica Garcia</b> and Board Vice President <b>Nick Melvoin's</b> offices were postponed until after the selection and naming of the Superintendent.</p> <p><b>May 8:</b> At its regular board meeting, the BOE approved several district facilities spending plans, including the use of \$18M in current bond funds for continued maintenance and/or upgrades to 94 existing or planned Prop 39 co-location sites, spending down current Measure Q funds. The Board also passed a resolution noting its support of Senate Constitutional Amendment 22 (Allen), which, if passed, would place on the ballot a proposal to lower the parcel tax approval threshold from two-thirds to 55%, which may have implications for the charter community should LAUSD decide to pursue a parcel tax in addition or instead of a bond, which we are hearing is a possibility.</p> |
| What's Happening Next Week          | We need to gather more data on a path forward regarding a bond with Austin onboard. We aim to get more intelligence from Nick's office, and also to secure a meeting with Board President Monica Garcia and Board Vice President Nick Melvoin's offices to discuss district bond status and the charter bond proposal.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| What's Happening with Working Group | The Facilities Policy Working Group (FPWG) was scheduled to meet on April 27, 2018 to discuss pre-November bond advocacy plans and to develop direct lobbying strategies and practices. With feedback from LAAC leadership and due to late cancellations from several FPWG members, we cancelled the meeting and will reschedule to an appropriate time and with direction from LAAC leadership.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

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|                                            | <p>We do not foresee a need for the FPWG to meet within the next two weeks. We will wait to learn more about the District's plan whether to pursue a bond in November 2018 and/or any shift toward alternative revenue sources (e.g., parcel tax.) However, we welcome feedback if you think the FPWG needs to within the next two weeks.</p> <p>General FYI: We have had increased interest from new charter leaders to be involved in the FPWG - e.g., Rachel Garber (HTLA); Rhonda Deomampo (Synergy); Carrie Wagner (GALS); Natasha Barriga (Resolute); and a recommitment from Liza Bercovici (Gabriella).</p> |
| Preliminary Thoughts for Next LAAC Meeting | Update LAAC members if there is clear information about a shift towards or away from bond.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

**Facilities – Long Term Agreements**

*North Star: Los Angeles charter school families have access to long-term, stable, District facilities that are equipped to support the learning needs of all students.*

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| Current Strategy | <p><b>Long-Term Facilities Use Agreements:</b> We leveraged the dismissal of our two facilities lawsuits to push for an accelerated conversation regarding long-term facilities use agreements, and have been pushing on the issue all year with LAAC members starting with DRL. We have shared our facilities proposal with Nick's office as a starting place. Currently, we are working most closely with Board Member Melvoin's office on next steps, and his office is also working with District staff to move the needle on facilities. His office has shared strategies both with LAAC members and CCSA on several fronts, which we continue to push for and counsel on including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BD4 Summer Co-Location Retreat (including 1-2 LAAC Members)</li> <li>• Long-Term FUA Pilot Program in BD 4, which likely will require the establishment of an RFP process</li> <li>• Establish a District-Charter Working Group to build out the RFP for long-term facilities</li> </ul> <p>We will continue to build public pressure and awareness around facilities by organizing charter leaders to speak at public meetings and work with the new Superintendent and Nick Melvoin to push District policy toward approving long-term agreements.</p> <p><b>Public Facilities Inventory &amp; Database:</b> The BOE passed a transparency-related resolution that can serve as the foundation for this work and we know from pre-Superintendent conversations with Austin indicate that he wants to move very quickly on a public inventory and database. Will work with the new Superintendent and Nick Melvoin to push District policy and directives toward inventorying and publishing District real estate and facilities-related information.</p> <p><b>Prop 39 Oversight:</b> Nick has indicated interest in adding charter representation to the space utilization committee to have a more direct lever to improve the process. We must push for this more explicitly, and also continue calling for improvements to Prop. 39 process publicly at board meetings and through</p> |
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|                                     | <p>media.</p> <p><b>Paradigm Shift in Facilities Allocation:</b> Our strategy toward establishing a complete paradigm shift in the way in which District utilizes and allocates public school facilities will be a long-term strategy and is determinative upon building a persistent groundswell of support and achieving major facilities wins, such as public and transparent facilities inventories and successful long-term facilities use agreements. A shift will also depend on the development of a performance framework and results therefrom.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| What Happened Last Week             | <p><b>Long-Term Facilities Use Agreements:</b><br/> <b>May 10:</b> We learned from <b>Annabelle Eliashiv</b> (Green Dot) and her conversation with <b>Oswaldo Bonilla</b> (LAUSD Operations Coordinator) that Board Vice President <b>Nick Melvoin</b> is allegedly prepared to write a resolution directing the District to implement long-term facilities use agreements for charters. He noted that the District already has the processes in place to implement the agreements/leases. Oswaldo also suggested forming a small district-charter working group to facilitate the work – e.g., Oswaldo, Annabelle, CCSA, and <b>Sarah Angel</b>. This is inconsistent with information Nick Melvoin has been sharing with CCSA and the LAAC Facilities Steering Committee and will need to be reconciled.</p> <p>Public Facilities Inventory &amp; Database: Austin Beutner's selection as Superintendent likely means he will have a mandate to execute on the recommendations of the taskforce he chaired, which includes a comprehensive, verified facilities inventory.</p> <p><b>Prop 39 Oversight:</b> Long-term, the selection of Austin as Superintendent certainly increases the likelihood of a major shift in facilities allocation and oversight.</p> <p><b>Paradigm Shift:</b> Long-term, the selection of Austin as Superintendent certainly increases the likelihood of a major shift in facilities allocation and oversight.</p> |
| What's Happening Next Week          | <p><b>Long-Term Facilities Use Agreements:</b><br/> Discuss, strategize, and recommend action toward Nick's current facilities ideas, and hopefully meet with Nick to discuss next steps to reconcile Oswaldo's comments to Annabelle.</p> <p>Secure high-level meeting with <b>Austin Beutner</b></p> <p>Begin organizing speakers for June 5 and 12 LAUSD board meetings and develop/update messaging points in light of new district leadership and political climate.</p> <p><b>Public Facilities Inventory &amp; Database:</b><br/> Same as above.</p> <p><b>Prop 39 Oversight:</b><br/> Same as above.</p> <p><b>Paradigm Shift:</b><br/> Same as above.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| What's Happening with Working Group | No recommended action until more information is gathered per next steps above.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Preliminary                         | No recommended action until more information is gathered per next steps                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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| Thoughts for Next LAAC Meeting | above. |
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**Relationships**

*North Star: The Los Angeles charter community establishes and maintains a leading voice informing LAUSD policy decisions with the new school board in place so that students and parents are at the forefront of District decision making.*

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| Current Strategy           | <p><b>Superintendent:</b> Using school leader knowledge and relationships with the new Superintendent, we are mapping what we know about Austin Beutner and creating a theory of action, with the goal of moving forward in concert with him on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Updating renewal criteria</li> <li>2. Changes at CSD so policy is followed consistently</li> <li>3. Long-term facilities agreements and process transparency</li> </ol> <p><b>Other Relationships:</b> We are continuing to facilitate small-group meetings with LAAC members and LAUSD Board Members. We are holding on additional goals until the 2018-19 school year, due to capacity and low attendance/interest from LAAC members.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| What Happened Last Week    | <p><b>Superintendent:</b> We continue to learn more on the Superintendent's intended approaches and needs through interviews in the press, monitoring opposition talking points at board meetings, and conversations with allies.</p> <p>Last week, SEIU and UTLA labor leaders announced that they would accompany the May 15 strike with an action at the Committee of the Whole meeting directed at Superintendent Beutner. While the strike was called off, we expect that labor partners likely leverage Mr. Beutner's new position to push hard against the board and the District, especially as UTLA postures for a potential strike in the fall.</p> <p>Jed is working to set up a meeting with Mr. Beutner, per outreach from the new superintendent. The meeting date has yet to be decided.</p> <p><b>Other Relationships:</b> Irene met with <b>Kelly</b> and <b>Megan</b> on Friday (others were unable to attend). Irene used the meeting primarily for relationship building, planning for maternity leave, and thanking Kelly for her superintendent vote.</p> |
| What's Happening Next Week | <p><b>Superintendent:</b> LA RA will compile all the asset mapping info from LAAC conversations into a briefing document on how to engage the Superintendent moving forward. We additionally are working to source staff for Austin, particularly mid-career people with project management backgrounds who are not exclusively from education reform backgrounds. Austin is looking for people who can help "get things done" inside the District.</p> <p>If Jed secures a meeting with Austin, we would be working to staff him with talking points aligned with the LAAC priorities.</p> <p>We should think about LAAC next steps with Austin, recognizing Emilio already invited him to the August meeting</p> <p><b>Other Relationships:</b> No updates.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

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| What's Happening with Working Group        | Not Applicable                                                                                     |
| Preliminary Thoughts for Next LAAC Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- LAAC/charter community welcome letter to Austin?</li></ul> |

Questions for discussion/feedback:

- Our strategy on **renewal criteria** is to let the working group die, use the "Listen and Learn" session to push for some reasonable changes, and then organize renewing schools to submit with CCSA criteria in their petitions if renewal criteria isn't updated enough. From there, we need to focus on getting onto the Performance Framework working group, and working that angle. We also need to reconcile Nick's thoughts on the framework. **Does that feel right? What are we missing? What do you recommend? How should we engage you two, the LAAC, and the working group on this?**
- On Authorizing and Oversight Policy, our strategy is to figure out what can be addressed outside a working group, push Ref to pull his resolution, send out the survey to collect data to share with the Superintendent, meet with him and make clear that the policies are good and staff is inconsistent, and potentially ask the board to request an informative on charter policy vs. practice. Additionally we recognize that new renewal criteria will be something we can backwards map from. **Does that feel right? What are we missing? What do you recommend? How should we engage you two, the LAAC, and the working group on this?**
- On the Bond, we need to know more and plan to collect more information next week so we know how to allocate our time and effort. Either way, we should meet with Nick and Monica on it, to round out our lobbying with Board offices. **Does that feel right? What are we missing? What do you recommend? How should we engage you two, the LAAC, and the working group on this?**
- On long-term facilities, we need to meet with Nick ASAP to reconcile his plans with Oswaldo's comments, and keep pushing in on this with Nick in particular. **Does that feel right? What are we missing? What do you recommend? How should we engage you two, the LAAC, and the working group on this?**

**Additional Updates**

1. LAAC Membership & Leadership
  - 5 Member Applications received from Arina Goldring, Natasha Barriga, Carrie Wagner, Richard Thomas, Johnathan Williams (See attached)
  - We suggest scheduling time to talk to Jed about LAAC leadership transition this week.  
**Can we process with that?**
2. Rescheduling June LAAC Meeting
3. Legislative Policy Priorities
4. Election

**LAAC June Meeting Agenda Planning**

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Draft Agenda in progress:

1. North Star updates
2. Legislative Policy Priorities